

FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY

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For Immediate Release

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Plants and Pollinators Featured at Green Spring's Fall Fling

Green Spring Gardens is hosting adult and fun family activities celebrating plants and pollinators at the 2007 Fall Fling on Saturday, September 15, 2007 from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Attend a silent auction or a mini-symposium; learn about monarch butterflies and bees; or just peruse the various plants available for purchase at the plant sale.

Bid on plants, art, garden excursions and other gardening essentials at the silent auction from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Refreshments will be served. Complimentary bidder numbers will be given to registrants of any of the day's events. To participate in the silent auction separately, the cost is \$5 per bidder number.

Dr. David Carr, curator of the Virginia State Arboretum, will explore the complexities of the vital relationship between flowering plants and their pollinators at the Plants & Pollinators minisymposium from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Also, David Inouye, professor of biology at the University of Maryland, will profile intriguing pollinators that inhabit the nocturnal landscape. The cost is \$20 per person.

Adults and families can examine the monarch's lifecycle and make a caterpillar cage at Discovery Station: Monarch Magic from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The cost is \$10 per project and includes a larva to take home to raise and release in your own garden.

Local beekeepers Bob and Grace Parker will share Green Spring Garden's beehive with you from 1 to 3 p.m. and talk about starting your own apiary. The cost is \$25 per person and includes a full tea program at the Historic House.

Virginia Native Plant Society members will staff tables at the Garden Gate plant shop's plant sale from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. There is no charge to attend the sale.

Green Spring Gardens is located at 4603 Green Spring Road in Alexandria, VA. Pre-registration is required for all activities. Please call 703-941-7987.

This event is co-sponsored by FROGS (Friends of Green Spring Gardens), the Virginia Native Plant Society, and Washington Gardener magazine.

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